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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) Kathmandu

VOLUME 10

APRIL 2009

Report of the Secretary-General on the request of Nepal for United Nations assistance in support of its Peace Process

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United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. (File Photo)

The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1864 (2009), by which the Council, pursuant to the request of the Government of Nepal and the recommendation of the Secretary-General, renewed the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), as set out in resolution 1740 (2007), until 23 July 2009 and requested an interim report by 30 April. UNMIN was established as a special political mission with a mandate which included the monitoring of the management of arms and armed personnel of the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) (CPN-M) and the Nepal Army. Following the merger of CPN-M with the Communist Party of Nepal — Unity Centre (Masal) on 13 January 2009, the party was renamed the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (UCPN M).

There has been some progress on significant issues related to the peace process. As regards the all-important constitution-making work, nationwide public consultations on constitutional matters have been taking place and Constituent Assembly committees have prepared concept papers. Among the key bodies convened since the formation of the Government in August 2008 is the Special Committee mandated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and article 146 of the Interim Constitution to supervise, integrate and rehabilitate Maoist army personnel, which began regular consultations. Its Technical Committee was also formed, and has taken up its functions. The Government took steps towards the discharge of disqualified Maoist army personnel from the cantonment sites.

See more...

http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=126&Body=Nepal&Body1=
http://www.unmin.org.np
http://unic.un.org/kathmandu



Photo: AFN

Radio Nepal with support from National Women's Commission is broadcasting 15 minutes weekly programme on Women's Human Rights every Sunday at 8.15.

Scretary General Remarks to Press on Swine Flu

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Remarks to Press on Swine Flu

27 April 2009

New York, 27 April: During the last few days, as you know, we have seen the appearance of a new influenza virus. It has been confirmed in the United States, Mexico and Canada and is suspected to have moved to other countries. We are concerned that this virus could cause a new influenza pandemic. It could be mild, in its effects, or potentially be severe. We do not yet know which way it will go. But we are concerned that, in Mexico, most of those who died were young and healthy adults. This will be a first test of the pandemic preparedness work the community of nations has undertaken in the last three years.

The UN system is responding, quickly and effectively, with the Director General of the World Health Organization, Dr. Margaret Chan, taking the lead. I have been in constant contact with Dr. Chan and other senior UN officials over the weekend. Dr. Chan informs me that she has activated the Strategic Operations Center at WHO. That includes convening the Emergency Committee, created under the revised International Health Regulations in 2005, which met over the weekend.

It will meet again later today to decide whether WHO should raise its pandemic alert from Phase 3. If we are indeed facing a pandemic, we need to demonstrate global solidarity. The swine flu outbreak shows yet again that, in our interconnected world, no nation can deal with threats of such dimension on its own. Poorer nations are especially vulnerable. They have been hit hard by other crises this year: food, energy, the global economy, climate change. We must ensure that they are not also hit disproportionately hard by a potential health crisis.

The World Bank and other UN development and humanitarian agencies will therefore mobilize to ensure that countries needing additional financial resources to combat an epidemic will have them. I will continue to be in close consultation with senior UN officials and, through Dr. Chan, with affected governments, international health officials and international organizations such as the International Red Cross to provide any and all assistance that might be required.

So far, our response has been an example of multilateral cooperation at its best.

I am confident that it will continue to be so.
Thank you very much for your support. —-

UN Country Team initiative "Radio Chautari" launched



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Robert Piper. Photo: UNIC

KATHMANDU, 04 April: A new initiative of the UN Country Team in Nepal - "Radio Chautari" has been launched. This is a new radio broadcast designed to communicate directly with people across Nepal on issues of peace and social and economic development. It on air from 4 April 2009.

The 30-minute weekly radio magazine is broadcast on Ujyalo 90 Network on FM 90.0 every Saturday from 07:30 to 08:00 hrs. and Kantipur FM 96.1 every Wednesday from 07:30 to 08:00 hrs.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the radio team for all the work they have put into getting the show on the road, namely Toya Ghimire, Bhavna Adhikari, Amar Lama, Sharada Rijal, and John Brittain who has coordinated the effort on behalf of the UNCT with the invaluable assistance of the UN Communications Group" said, Mr. Robert Piper, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the UN System in Nepal.

The radio initiative has been led by the UN Communications Group and is producing its programmes in close consultation with all the UN agencies in the country. The first programme was on Mine Action to coincide with Mine Action Day. Some of the subsequent programmes were on Uterine Prolapse, on Food Security and on Education for All. The shows were rebroadcast during in five local languages to maximise the reach of the message.

UN News

Viewing Nepal's progress towards peace: UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board members in Nepal



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Robert Piper (extreme Left) with the eight members of the joint Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) from donor and programme countries at a meeting with UNDP and UNFPA staff members. Photo: UNIC

KATHMANDU, 25 April: Eight members of the joint Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) from donor and programme countries visited Nepal from 18-25 April. The participating member states were Angola, Azerbaijan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania.

During their field visit to Nepal, the Board members saw first hand some of the challenges and opportunities for Nepal, UNDP and UNFPA during this critical period of transition in Nepal's process of development, as it moves from conflict to peace, from monarchy to republic, from a unitary to a federal state.

Meeting with the Government and non-Government stakeholders

The UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board members interacted with key Government and representatives from NGO communities, donors, UN Youth Advisory Panel, local communities and UN partners.

Field visit to UNDP and UNFPA sites

The Executive Board members travelled to the field to observe how districts are recovering from the conflict and how support to enterprise development and rebuilding of local infrastructure is improving the quality of the lives of people and bringing communities together to build peace. The members also observed how UNFPA's integrated range of activities on reproductive health, population and gender is supporting national efforts to reduce maternal mortality, to empower



Members of the joint Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), along with UNDP Country Director Anne Isabelle Degryse- Blateau, visiting the Main Cantonment Site (MCS), Division IV in Nawalparasi. Photo: UNDP

Contd... **UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board members in Nepal**



Members of the joint Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) interacting with members of the civil society of Nepal. Photo: UNDP

young girls and women, and to ensure that population dynamics are included in the national plans and budgets .

Cantonment

In Nawalparasi, the Main Cantonment Site (MCS), Division IV, the team interacted with the Maoist Commander, Yam Bahadur Adhikari. The commander expressed his thanks for the support of UN agencies to improve the condition of the cantonment. He further added that the war had been fought to bring peace but the peace process will not be complete without the completion of reintegration process.

The Executive Board members were briefed on the role of UNMIN in the peace process of Nepal and the support provided by UNDP and UNFPA during the registration and verification process. The team also inspected the health post in the cantonment where UNFPA has been assisting with health service provision. Some 20 per cent of Maoist combatants residing in the cantonments are female and a large number of these women are pregnant or breastfeeding. The Maoist army has specifically expressed the need for gynaecologists who can provide referral services, and for appropriate medical supplies and facilities to care for these women. Recognising the need for health services in the divisions as well as during discharge and reintegration and acknowledging the need to include the larger community in these support activities for reconciliatory and peaceful transition, UNFPA has developed a strategy to support the Government in the delivery of health services, particularly reproductive health, in the cantonment and during discharge and reintegration process.

UNDP and UNFPA Programmes

In Dang district, the members travelled to Tulsipur municipality and Pawannagar village where they attended a product fair organised by UNDP Micro-enterprise Development Programme and discussed with the micro-entrepreneurs as how the technical and management skills they had learned helped them improve their livelihoods. The Micro-enterprise Enterprise Development Programme has been providing skill development trainings and marketing support to the entrepreneurs who have been producing honey, fabrics, candles, soaps, incense, bamboo furniture, spices, juice etc. Most of the entrepreneurs are women and they have been able to increase their income by 275%.

The Board members also visited two schools which have received support from the UNDP Quick Impact programme. The support has enabled the schools to add more classrooms and have a proper roof thereby allowing more children to go to school and to finish their high school close to home.

At the UNFPA programme site in Pawannagar, the team interacted with the Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) who explained about how the young girls and mothers have become more aware about safer reproductive health. The delegates interacted with the girls from socially excluded groups who were given an opportunity to be empowered to plan their life through the support of Women Development Office and UNFPA's Choose your Future Programme. Through the support of the programme, the mothers were able to talk confidently about the importance of their daughters leading a healthy life by having a better knowledge about reproductive health. Some of the former uterine prolapse patients, who later became advocates in spreading knowledge on how to prevent this ailment, also shared their experience with the Board members.

The Board members gained an insight in two innovative community initiatives supported by UNFPA, UNICEF and Women Development Office such as the Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) established to support complicated pregnancies and provide money without delay for transport and necessary arrangements; Paralegal Committees established and trained in every village development committee in Dang for mediation in gender and sexual violence cases and protection of child rights.

Team Leader of the visiting members, Mr. Aldo Aldama Breton from Mexico, Director of Economic and Social Issues, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "I am highly impressed by the dedication of these communities. It is wonderful to see so much of enthusiasm among these men and women. They are aware that their children need good education. I am equally overwhelmed to see that these women and young girls have so much of enthusiasm to learn about health issues and are now doing a wonderful job of educating the others also. It is impressive to see how both UNDP and UNFPA are working in synergy for a common cause."

UN News

Regional International Health Regulations Risk Communication Capacity Building Workshop, Kathmandu

Kathmandu, 9 April: The WHO regional office for South-East Asia (WHO/SEARO) organized a "Regional IHR Risk Communication Capacity Building Workshop" in Kathmandu, Nepal from 22 to 24 April 2009.

Recent outbreaks of avian Influenza, dengue and chikungunya fever in the Region have demonstrated the vulnerability of Asian countries to emerging and re-emerging diseases. The region has reported the highest number of cases and deaths due to human avian influenza reported in 2008, indicating the one should not became complacent about avian influenza and that continued active surveillance is key to early detection and response.

As part of the broader IHR capacity building program, it is necessary to introduce the IHR focal points, who will have a role to play in dealing with communication during events of national and international concern, to risk communication concepts and theories as the related to public health emergencies, to explore the risk communications requirements under IHR, and to help in the development of practical plans to ensure these capacities are in place. They must be equipped to know when to say what and how effective risk communication is an essential element of public health emergency management. When the public is at risk of a real or potential health threat, treatment options may be limited, direct interventions may take time to organize and resources may be few. Communication advice and guidance often stands as the most important public health tool through which a risk will be managed.

The specific objectives of the regional IHR Risk Communication Capacity Building Workshop were:

1. To share updates, best practices examples, challenges face, guidelines and tools for IHR Risk Communication,
2. To facilitate network building and explore way in which Member State can work within the sphere of outbreak communication and cross border issues and
3. To recommend and action plan for implementation required by countries and WHO.

UNIC's National Information Officer Ram Babu Shah participated in the workshop and presented a paper on Nepali Media and health reporting in Nepal.

Children in Cha'pur-4 VDC, Rautahat, looking at a poster developed by OHCHR-Nepal and the NHRC illustrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 23 April. Photo: OHCHR Nepal



UN News

WFP Provides Laptops to Students in Dadeldhura Schools

KATHMANDU, 29 April: The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Nepal today announced the launch of the One Laptop per Child (OLPC) pilot project in Dadeldhura district in partnership with Open Learning Exchange Nepal (OLE Nepal) and Nepal Government's Department of Education. This initiative will provide laptop computers to 180 school children and teachers in grades two and three in three of the government schools in Far Western Nepal where WFP also provides food assistance.

With the aim of improving education quality and access, the program will distribute laptops at three public schools in Dadeldhura – Shree Samaijee Primary School in Samaijee VDC, Shree Janta Primary School in Kailpalmandu VDC, and Shree Janajyoti Primary School in Haamtad VDC. The laptops will contain curriculum-based interactive education materials in English, mathematics and Nepali that are developed by OLE Nepal. Thirteen teachers from the three schools have already been through a seven day residential training conducted in Dadeldhura by trainers from OLE Nepal and National Centre for Educational Development (NCED).

"WFP's school feeding programme plays a critical role in increasing school attendance," said WFP Country Representative, Richard Ragan. "Making laptop computers available will improve the quality of education that students receive while they are in school."

"The laptop project will improve the quality of teaching and provide teachers and students from these schools with new learning opportunities and resources, in an attempt to bridge the inequalities across Nepal's different socio-economic populations," he added. "Through these computers, children will now have access to a wealth of high quality educational resources previously only available to children from private institutions in Kathmandu and in developed countries."

Under its Nepal Food for Education program, WFP is feeding 236,000 school children in 11 districts in Nepal. Along with the laptops, each school will be equipped with a server containing an electronic library that students and teachers can access from the laptops. The electronic library that is being developed by OLE Nepal contains full text documents, books, audio books, videos, reference materials, and other educational materials free of cost. Given the scarcity of libraries in Nepal, this project will also serve as a platform for people to access information.

This initiative by WFP in collaboration with OLE, Nepal is in support of the Ministry of Education in meeting the commitments of the "Education of All" programme by 2015.



WFP Country Representative, Richard Ragan distributing laptop to school students in Dadeldhura. Photo: WFP

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency and the UN's frontline agency for hunger solutions. This year, WFP plans to feed around 90 million people in 80 countries.

WFP inquiries: Please contact WFP Country Representative, Richard Ragan or Assistant Communications Officer, Seetashma Thapa, (seetashma.thapa@wgp.org). 554-2607 or 553-5694

World Digital Library

http://www.wdl.org

UNESCO and 32 partner institutions launched the World Digital Library (WDL), a web site that features unique cultural materials from libraries and archives from around the world, at UNESCO Headquarters on 21 April. The site includes manuscripts, maps, rare books, films, sound recordings, and prints and photographs. The WDL was developed by a team at the Library of Congress with technical assistance provided by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina of Alexandria, Egypt. It functions in seven languages – Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish – and includes content in more than forty languages.

UN News

National Water Week 2009 Celebration in Nepal: Marking World Water Day 2009



Water Exhibition.
Photo: UN-HABITAT



Workshop on National Water Week 2009.
Photo: UN-HABITAT



Workshop on National Water Week 2009. Photo: UN-HABITAT

Kathmandu, 29 April: The global community as usual observed World Water Day (WWD) 2009 on 22 March focusing on "Transboundary Water: Sharing Water, Sharing Opportunities". The day is being celebrated globally since 1992 to address the issues related with drinking water and its' associated problems.

In Nepal, a week-long "National Water Week 2009" was organized from 18 to 23 March to mark WWD 2009 in order to aware and sensitize policy makers, development planners, bureaucrats, environmentalists, researchers, advocacy groups, students and the society as a whole on the water and climate issues, and illustrate the need and generate a thirst on proper management of water – the scarce resource.

Over 50 organizations comprising government, non government, professional societies and youth clubs carried out different events concentrating on a common theme "Water, Climate and Our Life: Merging Interests, Creating Synergies." Appreciating it, UN-HABITAT Water for Asian Cities Programme Nepal also expressed its solidarity in this initiative.

The Water Parade organized at the beginning of Water Week brought more than 1000 participants from different fields and walks together to march for the improvement of water, sanitation and climate change issues in addition to disseminating the theme of water week celebration.

During a week long celebration, Honorable Minister Ganesh Shah, Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Hon'ble Minister Bishnu Prasad Paudel, Ministry of Water Resources, Hon'ble Chairperson of Constitution Assembly (CA) Subash Nembang and many other CA members' participated in different events including inauguration of water week, water parade, conferences on world water day and world meteorological day. Their involvement at these events and the commitment they made during these events reflected the growing interest of the government and political leaders on water, sanitation and climate change issues, and ensured stakeholders and others to endorse these issues properly in new constitution of Nepal.

The Water Week Organizing Committee, a committee formed to coordinate the Water Week 2009, organized a two-day "Water Exhibition" for mass sensitization on water related topics. Information dissemination during these events helped over 2000 people to increase their knowledge on water and climate related issues. Likewise, the presentations and documentary films further helped to disseminate information on subject matters.

Information on water related issues were disseminated widely by performing street drama entitled "Water: Our Life" at three places of Kathmandu Valley. An Inter School Art Competition on "Importance of Water and its' Scarcity" had also been organized to sensitize students on water related issues and disseminate the information on water and climate change from educational institutions as well.

At the closing of the Water Week, Kathmandu Water Declaration 2009 was released, which has been considered as the key achievement of the Water Week 2009. In the declaration, water is considered as the basic human needs and also has the ecological and economic value.

In total, the National Water Week 2009 effectively created awareness to government and political leaders to make their commitment to address water and its related issues. It disseminated information on water and climate change at public level through various activities and assembled stakeholders to work for the improvement of water sector.

JTA on AIDS

Updates: UN Joint Team on AIDS



Some of the JTA members in the JTA retreat in Pokhara. Photo: UNAIDS

Kathmandu, 29 April:

Hello dear reader!

This page will be a monthly feature in the UN newsletter. It will raise various aspects of the joint team on AIDS's (JTA) activities and other HIV related events going on within the UN. This first edition will tell you what the JTA is and why it is needed. First, however, I will give you a general brief on the HIV situation in Nepal.

In Nepal it is estimated that approximately 70,000 people are infected with HIV, or a prevalence of 0.49%. Since the first AIDS case was reported in 1988, the epidemic in Nepal has evolved from a low prevalence to a concentrated epidemic. A concentrated epidemic is an epidemic where certain groups of the population have a prevalence higher than 5% while the rest of the population has a low prevalence. Sexual transmission and injecting drug use are major factors in the evolution of the HIV epidemic in the country.

There is no silver bullet that prevents HIV transmission and there is no cure for HIV. Many different components make up the HIV prevention work. That is why it is important to have many inputs and different strategies when working with HIV and focus the prevention on groups that have high risk behaviour. Therefore the joint team on AIDS (JTA) is an excellent way to gain different knowledge on working with HIV.

What is the JTA?

The JTA exists for the specific purpose of improving collaboration on AIDS among UN agencies. In the past several years, in addition to internal UN efforts to improve collaboration on AIDS, there has been an increased commitment by all international organizations and donors to harmonize assistance "in ways that rationalize the often excessive fragmentation of donor activities at the country and sector levels" (Paris Declaration, 2005). Joint UN teams on AIDS are intended to respond to these challenges by catalysing renewed commitment and effective, strategic UN action in support of national responses to AIDS.

Who belongs to the joint UN team on AIDS?

The joint UN team on AIDS in each country is made up of UN staff working full- or part-time on AIDS throughout the UN system, including UNAIDS cosponsors and other non-cosponsor agencies present in country. The members of the JTA are officially nominated by their head of agency.

This was a brief introduction of the JTA. In next issue we will cover what we do practically and introduce the UN CARES programme. Till then, keep safe and protect yourself! For more information on HIV do not hesitate to contact me, Masse (JM), on Hellstromj@unaids.org.

UNFPA Orients UN Youth Advisory Panel in Nepal



Ian McFarlane, UNFPA Representative speaking to participants of the orientation.
Photo: UNFPA

Kathmandu, 19 April: The Resident Coordinator Office with UNFPA support organised an orientation for the UN Youth Advisory Panel (UNYAP) to provide opportunity for the Panel members to interact with representatives of various UN agencies and learn the details of their work and activities. The programme was attended by the members of the UNYAP and representatives (youth focal officers) from RC Office, UNFPA, UNMIN, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNV, ILO, UNODC, UNESCO, UNFPA and UNAIDS. This was a unique chance for the Youth Advisory Panel to learn about how the UN system in Nepal works and the linkages between the 22 UN agencies. It has provided them with more information on UN support to different stakeholders at central and local levels and will support their work as Youth Advisors to the UN Country Team. At the end of the session, the work plan of UNYAP for the year 2009 was finalized.

OHCHR trains twenty-six journalists



OHCH-Nepal human rights officer Prabina Bajracharya presenting materials to the participants. Photo: OHCHR

BHAIRAHAWA 22 April: From 19 to 22 April, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal (OHCHR-Nepal) organised a capacity-building programme for journalists from the western development region on mainstreaming human rights in journalism. The latest in a series of trainings organised by the Office for the media, it was attended by 26 journalists, including eight women, from Rupandehi, Nawalparashi, Kapilvastu and Kaski districts.

The programme included an introduction to human rights; reporting about human rights, particularly transitional justice issues; practical advice on journalists' safety; and reporting in a conflict-sensitive way.

The training was organised with support from district chapters of the Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ) and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ).

"This training is a good opportunity to discuss in-depth many of the issues that we have been sensitizing journalists to during the past three years, including their role in the protection of human rights," said Claudia Gomez-Diaz, Head of OHCHR-Nepal's Western Region Office. "At the same time, we are mindful of the difficulties facing journalists in the region and are particularly happy to have with us as a resource person an expert on the security of journalists, from Sri Lanka."

UN News

UN Event for May 2009

Sun, May 03: World Press Freedom Day



World Press Freedom Day was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December, 1993, as an outgrowth of the Seminar on Promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press. This Seminar took place in Windhoek, Namibia, in 1991 and led to the adoption of the Windhoek Declaration on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Media (www.misanet.org/charters/windhoek.html). The Windhoek Declaration called for the establishment, maintenance and fostering of an independent, pluralistic and free press and emphasized the importance of a free press to the development and maintenance of democracy in a nation, and for economic development. World Press Freedom Day is celebrated annually on May 3rd, the date on which the Windhoek Declaration was adopted. **http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/press**

Fri, 15 May: International Day Of Families

The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 47/237 of 20 September 1993, proclaimed that 15 May of every year shall be observed as the International Day of Families. This annual observance reflects the importance which the international community attaches to families as basic units of society as well as its concern regarding their situation around the world. The International Day of Families provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families as well as to promote appropriate action. The Day can become a powerful mobilizing factor on behalf of families in all countries, which avail themselves of this opportunity and demonstrate support of family issues appropriate to each society. **http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/family/IntObs/IDF/IDFframe.htm**

Sun, 17 May: World Information Society Day

On 27 March 2006, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/60/252 proclaiming 17 May as annual World Information Society Day. This Day will help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information communications technologies (ICTs) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. **http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/events/infosociety/index.html**

Thu, 21 May: World Day For Cultural Diversity For Dialogue And Development



Further to the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity by UNESCO on November 2001, the General Assembly, in Resolution 57/249, welcomed the Declaration and the main lines of an Action Plan for its implementation, and proclaimed 21 May the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. The Day provides us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to "live together" better. UNESCO continues to promote greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development and the important role of information and communication technologies in this relationship. **http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/cultural_diversity**

Fri, 22 May: International Day For Biological Diversity

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22, the International Day for Biological Diversity, to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. Biodiversity is the source of the essential goods and ecological services that constitute the source of life for all. The celebration each year of the International Day for Biological Diversity is an occasion to reflect on our responsibility to safeguard this precious heritage for future generations.

Sun, 31 May : World No-Tobacco Day

World No Tobacco Day is observed around the world every year on May 31. The member states of the World Health Organization created World No Tobacco Day in 1987. It draws global attention to the tobacco epidemic and to the preventable death and disease it causes. It aims to reduce the 3.5 million yearly deaths from tobacco related health problems.

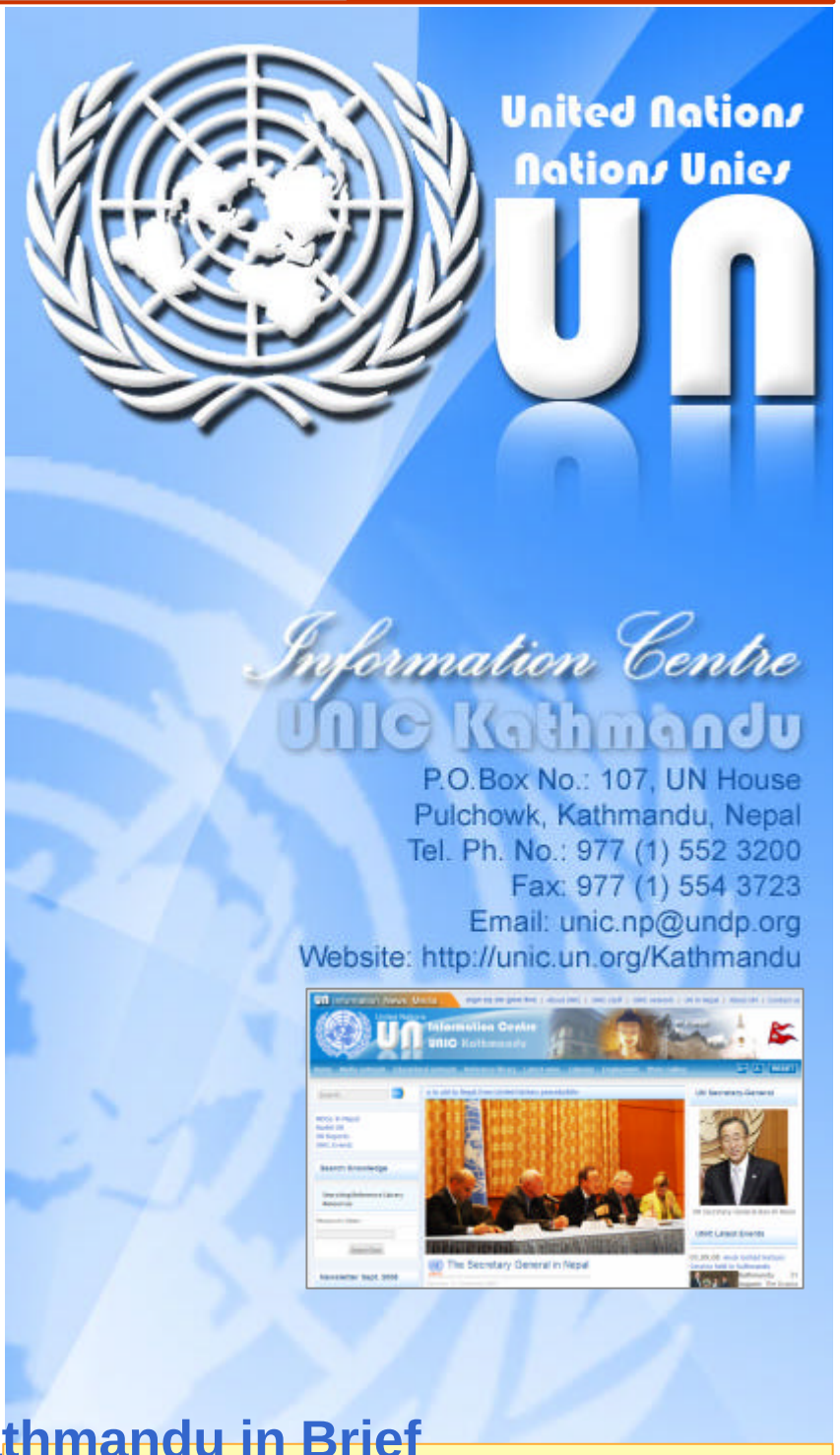
Sat, 9 May: World Vesak Day

The UN General Assembly acknowledging the hope expressed by the International Buddhist Conference, held in Sri Lanka in November 1998, that the Day of Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May each year, be internationally recognized and, in particular, at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations Offices, Considering that international recognition at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations Offices would constitute acknowledgement of the contribution that Buddhism, one of the oldest religions in the world, has made, for over two and a half millennia, and continues to make to the spirituality of humanity, Resolves that, without cost to the United Nations, appropriate arrangements shall be made for international observances of Vesak at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations Offices.

UN Resource Materials

UN Nepal

ADB
http://www.adb.org
FAO
http://www.fao.org
ILO
htt://www.ilo.org
IMF
http://www.imf.org
OHCHR
http://nepal.ohchr.org
OCHA
http://www.un.org.np
UNAIDS
http://www.unaids.org
UNCDF
http://www.uncdf.org/nepal
UNDP
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WFP



UNIC Kathmandu in Brief

UNIC Kathmandu is located in the UN House where most of the UN agencies in Nepal are also located. UNIC has a same entrance for visitors to facilitate their access into the Centre - be it to consult the reference library; to attend press conferences or for seeking information on UN related issues.

UNIC undertakes extensive press activities, such as organizing press conferences for visiting UN officials, and for other UN agencies located in Nepal. It helps to prepare joint statements for the UN Country Team on various important issues and disseminates statements of the UN Secretary-General and other press releases/news/articles/reports coming from UN Headquarters. It is fully accessible to media persons and visitors during office hours.

http://unic.un.org/kathmandu

In its constant endeavor to upgrade its service delivery with new and innovative approach through recent Information Technology, UNIC Kathmandu has implemented the electronics library system with internet facility to visitors as well as eCatalogue for fast and efficient tracking of available contents in reference library. This catalogue is available online for home users as well as for other individuals.

URL:http://kathmandu.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=80&Itemid=73